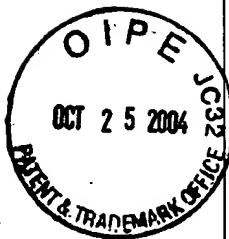


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HUBR 1067.3 DIV (10105485)



**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**  
**37 C.F.R. § 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below:

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Date

Fani Malikouzakis

Name: Fani Malikouzakis

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Christoph SEIDEL et al.  
Serial No : 09/896,032  
Filed : June 29, 2001  
For : METHOD FOR DETERMINING EARLY HCV  
SEROCONVERSION  
Art Unit : 1648  
Examiner : Donna C. Wortman

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October 22, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

SIR:

This is in response to the Office Action of August 12, 2004, wherein the Examiner withdrew a prior notice of allowable subject matter, raised new issues, and presented new rejections.

Please amend the application as follows: